

From the Pulpit

ARE YOU READY FOR CHRISTMAS?

Pr. Ella Moehlman
Trinity Lutheran, Lisbon

Are you ready for Christmas? For Christ to arrive? During our Advent season, we're not just focusing on Christ's first arrival into our world, a baby in a manger, but we're also getting ready for Christ to come again, to judge the living and the dead. We're reminded by the gospel witness to keep watch and be ready! "Keep awake, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming" (Matt 24:42).

My son and I watched the holiday movie "Home Alone" last week. In it, little Kevin gets forgotten and left behind while his mom and dad, brothers and sisters, aunt, uncle, and cousins all fly to Paris for the holidays. Trouble ensues when two crooks target the neighborhood and house where Kevin is staying home, alone. "But understand this: if the owner of the house had known what time of night the thief was coming, he would have kept watch and would not

have let his house be broken into" (Matt 24:43). Resourceful Kevin does just that, he knows the crooks are going to show up and so he rigs up all sorts of defenses and booby traps his house.

"So you must also be ready, because the Son of Man will come at an hour when you do not expect Him" (Matt 24:44). We have to be ready for Jesus, because He is coming like a thief in the night and we don't know when, but we know it's soon! So prepare your hearts, prepare your homes, your lives, because Jesus could show up at any minute.

So we think, like Kevin from "Home Alone," that we need to booby trap our lives for God's arrival and make sure everything is in order. We set out the Advent wreath and a devotional book on our table. We put a Bible verse on our Christmas card. 'Jesus is the reason for the season!' We're rigging up our defenses against God's arrival, so he will approve of us. We make sure we show up to church, and we look down our

noses on the people who aren't as generous as we are at Christmas, or who drink too much of the spiked eggnog and get in a fight with their brother. Another booby trap set up - thank God I'm not like them! I'm a much better person! See, God, look how good I am!

Jesus is coming like a thief in the night, but you can't prepare for Him, because He is coming to steal your preparations. Jesus comes to take away your sin. He steals your self-righteous from right out under your nose. You might try to booby trap yourself against God's arrival, like Kevin does in "Home Alone" against the crooks. But it won't work, because in the story of Christ Jesus, God himself is the crook. He's arrested, tried, and executed. His crime? Stealing the sin of the world and giving us His righteousness. So take it easy on the Christmas preparations, and enjoy the new life you are given in Christ.

Senior life

Lisbon & Enderlin MENU

Monday, December 8 – Grilled Salmon, Mashed Potatoes, Dilled Baby Carrots, Honeydew, Wheat Bread x2

Tuesday, December 9 – Beef Stroganoff, Parslied Noodles, Spinach Cheese Salad, Seasoned Broccoli, Blushing Pineapple, Wheat Dinner Roll

Wednesday, December 10 – Meatloaf, Mashed Potatoes, Brown Gravy, Sliced Dilled Carrots, WW Ciabatta Roll, Minted Pear

Thursday, December 11 – Teriyaki Chicken, Sesame Brown Rice, Pacific Blend Veggies, Vegetable Egg Roll, Chilled Peaches

Friday, December 12 – Shepherds Pie, Brussels Sprouts, Mandarin Oranges, Wheat Bread

Please order by 9am! Thank you

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Lisbon City Council

City of Lisbon Meeting Minutes November 3, 2025

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Tim Meyer. Council Members present Julie Cole, Ben Gemar, Jordan Matzke, Rob Waletzko, Sandy Hoff and LyDell Mairs. Guests present were Eric King, Jon Oien, Janna Miller, Jeff Leadbetter, Tracy Eslinger – Moore Engineering, Jerry Gemar, Kari Breker, Tracey Urbach, Jo Stulz, Lacie Halstenson, Charlene Rawson, Rachelle Demarais. The following guests joined via Zoom: Lynn Kaspari – Ransom County Gazette, Dylan Thomes and Heather Bergemann.

MOTION – Gemar SECOND – Mairs

To approve the minutes of the October 6, 2025 meeting. All Aye

Kari Breker was present to discuss her refuse charge and questions to the council regarding fees.

Jerry Gemar gave an update on condemnation properties.

MOTION – Waletzko SECOND – Cole Nay - Matzke All others aye

Jeff Leadbetter draws up an MOU for the Sheyenne Water Trail with preservation of intent to protect the City of Lisbon.

MOTION – Matzke SECOND - Hoff

To approve the police report. All Aye

Jon Oien made the council aware that the transmission went out in the 2016 Ford Explorer owned by the police department. He presented options for repair or purchase of a new vehicle.

MOTION – Gemar SECOND – Matzke Gemar, Matzke, Cole - Aye

Motion failed. Mairs, Waletzko, Hoff, Meyer - Nay

To lease a 2024 Ford Explorer from ESU pursuits for the police department in the amount of \$65,000 paid as \$15,800 per year.

MOTION – Gemar SECOND – Cole Mairs – Nay, All others aye

To approve the purchase of a 2024 Ford Explorer from ESU pursuits for the police department in the amount of \$65,000. The amount to be paid as \$33,545.75 from the current vehicle budget, \$20,000 from the 2026 budget and the remaining \$11,454.25 out of reserves.

MOTION – Waletzko SECOND – Hoff

To approve the public works report. All Aye

MOTION – Waletzko SECOND – Cole

To approve bond paperwork to be signed. All Aye

MOTION – Gemar SECOND – Hoff

To approve the auditor/economic development report. All Aye

Tracy Eslinger, Engineer with Moore Engineering, gave updates on the projects: CO2 tank, lift station upgrades, utility improvement district funding & timeline and well replacement to the council.

Tim Meyer gave an update on the Lake Agassiz Water Association

MOTION – Waletzko SECOND – Mairs All Aye

To sell the property at 902 Forest St to Lake Agassiz developers for \$15,000 to include deed and abstract.

MOTION – Matzke SECOND – Hoff All Aye

To approve STAR's recommendation of \$30,000 to Lisbon Civic & Commerce for the holiday promotion.

MOTION – Gemar SECOND – Cole All Aye

To approve LV&EB's recommendations:

\$3,130 to Scenic Sign Corp to update the vinyl on the Main Street digital sign.

\$800 to individuals/groups to hang flags

\$790.36 to the Liq'r Pigz for their annual ribfest

\$3,500 to Ransom County Fair Board for advertising

\$10,000 to Lisbon Civic & Commerce for the holiday promotion

\$3,500 to Lisbon Civic & Commerce for advertising and \$2,296 for event costs

MOTION – Waletzko SECOND – Matzke All Aye

To approve the 2026 Beer/Liquor applications:

2026-1 Lisbon Bissell Golf Club

2026-2 Casey's

2026-3 Gordy's Grill & Fill

2026-4 Cattleman's Club

GAMING PERMIT APPROVED BY AUDITOR'S OFFICE

2025-39 Lisbon Post Prom, Raffle 11/16/2025

2025-40 Jo Gamache Benefit, Raffle board 10/18/2025

2025-41 St Aloysius CCD, Bingo/ Raffle 11/23/2025

2025-42 CHI Lisbon Health, Raffle 11/21/2025 (pending payment)

2025-43 Lisbon Civic & Commerce, Bingo 12/6/2025

2026-1 Lisbon Wrestling Club, Calendar raffle 02/01-02/28/2026

2026-2 St Aloysius Church, Raffle – 1/18/2026

BUILDING PERMITS APPROVED BY CODE ADMINISTRATOR

3235 Bruce & Pamela Smith, 704 Maple St - Windows

3237 Riverside Building Center, 1015 Main St – Curb & sidewalk repair

3238 Brian Weight, 614 Jackson Ave W – Shipping container

3239 James & Marilyn Storhoff, 606 3 Ave W - Shed

MOTION – Waletzko SECOND – Mairs

To approve the bills: All Aye

-98388

DICKEY RURAL NETWORKS 120.81

CAYLA WILTSE 70.00

DICKEY RURAL NETWORKS 77.28

TEAL'S MARKET 3.18

CITY OF LISBON 151.47

WELTON'S TIRE SERVICE 108.90

-98385

MARCO TECHNOLOGIES LLC 154.32

CHS DAKOTA PLAINS AG 1562.00

FATMAN TRASH, LLC 30553.74

NAPA AUTO PARTS 52.99

DICKEY RURAL NETWORKS 711.80

MOORE ENGINEERING, INC. 177778.20

CASS COUNTY ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE 68.23

KRISTINA L DICK 357.00

CASS COUNTY ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE 293.92

LISBON FIRE DEPARTMENT 357.88

AFLAC - MONTHLY K1T25 618.28

AW DIESEL SERVICE 787.85

JOB SERVICE NORTH DAKOTA 171.87

LISBON CIVIC & COMMERCE 3750.00

HEARTLAND PAYMENT SYSTEMS 140.03

JERRY GEMAR 581.39

VERIZON WIRELESS 358.23

AW DIESEL SERVICE 889.36

VERIZON WIRELESS 119.09

WATER SMITH, INC. 2150.00

CARDMEMBER SERVICE 6676.49

ETHANOL PRODUCTS, LLC 2459.58

BANK OF NORTH DAKOTA 111134.81

BRI-TON 40.00

BREMER TRUST NA 1.52

FERGUSON WATERWORKS #2516 3033.79

DAKOTA WATER SOLUTIONS 54.00

STRANDER CONSTRUCTION 23869.84

PLAINS GRAIN & AGRONOMY LLC 127.50

ANGIE WALETZKO 79.25

RIVERSIDE BUILDING CENTER 376.71

LOFFLER 174.81

GRAYMONT (WD) LLC 6392.80

MIDWEST PEST CONTROL 2500.00

KORI KNIPPLE 315.00

CASUAL LIVING, INC 120.00

CITY OF FARGO 28.00

AL REINKE 3630.00

THE WINDOW MAN 35.00

BRENT DICK 1475.68

STURDEVANT'S AUTO PARTS 119.88

KATHERINE CARLSON 1000.00

CROSSROADS ELECTRIC, INC. 0.00

BENJAMIN ZAHRBOCK 500.00

GROTBERG ELECTRIC, INC 2296.94

MEGAN HUETHER 500.00

SCHEELS FARGO 221.70

GORDY'S GRILL N FILL 42.10

CASSANDRA DICK 0.00

BIG TREE NURSERY / TIM FISCHER 3200.00

NORTH DAKOTA LEAGUE OF CITIES 1735.00

ADVANCED ENGINEERING & ENVIROMENTAL SERV 180.00

RANDY GALLAGHER 200.00

COMPUTER EXPRESS 4403.86

LISBON TRUE VALUE 210.93

MIDWEST PEST CONTROL 90.00

CALVIN BUCHHOLZ 478.00

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIORNMENTAL QUALITY 183.55

WARREN JOHNSON 650.33

CALVIN BUCHHOLZ 115.83

LEADBETTR TRUST ACCOUNT 255000.00

WARREN JOHNSON 253.02

OTTERTAIL POWER COMPA 7340.80

POSTMASTER 271.93

OVERDRIVE INC. 800.00

CITY OF LISBON 15977.68

NORTH DAKOTA ONE CALL, INC. 19.50

CROSSROADS ELECTRIC, INC. 265.25

CASSANDRA DICK 240.00

The City office will be closed November 27&28 for the Thanksgiving holiday.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:53pm

ATTEST:

TIM MEYER, MAYOR

KRISTINA L DICK - AUDITOR

Publish: December 8, 2025

Attention Soybean Growers

ATTENTION RANSOM COUNTY SOYBEAN GROWERS: 2026 NORTH DAKOTA SOYBEAN COUNCIL (NDSC) ELECTION NOMINEES SOUGHT FOR RANSOM COUNTY REPRESENTATIVE

On or about December 18, 2025, the NDSC will mail a nomination form to soybean producers of record in the above-named county. To be considered, nomination forms must be filed with the County Extension Agent for the above-named county. The County Extension Agent must receive the completed nomination form by January 12, 2026, or your mailed-in form must be postmarked no later than January 12, 2026. If you do not receive a nomination form in the mail, contact your County Extension Agent or the NDSC to obtain one. Look for the green envelope in the mail.

After nominations are validated by the County Extension Agent, names of the nominees will be sent to the NDSC to be placed on the 2025 ballot. On or about February 17, 2026, the NDSC will mail to soybean producers of record an election ballot with instructions. Look for the blue envelope in the mail. Completed ballots must be post-marked by March 5, 2026. The newly elected County Representative will be notified by March 12, 2026. In late March, those County Representatives will elect one County Representative to serve on the NDSC board of directors.

For more information and answers to questions, contact your County Extension Agent.

Publish: December 8, 2025

Need Help for Aging Family?

Contact:
Aging in Community
Program Coordinator

625 Main Street, Lisbon, ND 58054

Office: 701.683.8346

Katie.mairs@ndsu.edu



HAVE A GREAT STORY IDEA? SEND US YOUR IDEAS!

RANSOM COUNTY GAZETTE

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